

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Committee Description



READ TO DISCOVER:

1. What is the main work of UNICEF ?
2. Why does UNICEF help both mothers and children?
3. Why is it important to have countries from all regions on the executive board?

The **United Nations Children's Fund**, or **UNICEF**, is a United Nations organization that helps children and mothers around the world. It was founded on December 11, 1946 to provide emergency help to children after World War II. At first, it was known as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. Later it was renamed to its current United Nations Children's Fund, but people continue to refer to it by its old acronym, UNICEF.

The goal of UNICEF is to make sure that every child in the world is healthy, happy, and safe from harm. These goals are accomplished by sending doctors to poor rural areas to distribute immunizations, setting up schools and making education more accessible, and creating a protective environment to keep children safe from violence, exploitation, and abuse. In addition to working with children, UNICEF also runs programs to help mothers, because improved health care and nutrition for mothers will also benefit their children. Also, UNICEF is able to strengthen the home and family lives of children by offering aid to their mothers. Children in safe, stable homes are more likely to live happy, healthy lives.



David Beckham a UNICEF
"Goodwill Ambassador"

All of the money that UNICEF uses to bring aid to mothers and children comes from donations. Donors include governments, organizations, and individuals. Also, UNICEF has started programs such as "Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF" and "Goodwill Ambassadors" to bring more attention to the issues affecting children around the world. Some Goodwill Ambassadors have included Shakira, David Beckham, and Angelina Jolie.

UNICEF distributes the donations it receives to programs around the world. A group called the executive board decides which programs will be given funding and how much money they will get. There are 36 countries on the executive board. The members of the board rotate on three-year terms so that every country is given a change to be on the board. The board always ensures that every region of the world is equally represented.